

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 01837 101821Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 TRSE-00 /054 W  
-----101841Z 109937 /45

O 101739Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9293

UNCLAS MADRID 1837

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, SP, US  
SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER REPORTS DELAYS OF VANCE, SUAREZ VISITS AIMED AT  
PRESERVING U.S. NEUTRALITY IN SPANISH ELECTIONS

REF: MADRID 1800

1. IN A FOLLOW-UP TO THE DIARIO 16 STORY (REFTEL), THE  
AFTERNOON INFORMACIONES MARCH 10 REPORTED THAT BOTH THE  
DELAY IN THE VISIT OF SECRETARY VANCE TO MADRID AND THE USG  
DESIRE THAT PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ NOT VISIT WASHINGTON  
BEFORE JUNE OR JULY ARE AIMED AT PRESERVING USG NEUTRALITY  
IN THE UPCOMING SPANISH ELECTIONS BY AVOIDING A BOOST TO  
SUAREZ' PRESTIGE. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, FILED FROM NEW  
YORK BY FELIPE SAHAGUN, SPANISH POLITICAL GROUPS "PRESSURED"  
THE DEPARTMENT IN THIS SENSE.

2. A SUMMARY OF THE STORY'S PRINCIPAL POINTS:  
A) DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS DECLARED MARCH 9 THAT THE  
SECRETARY "HAS DECIDED TO POSTPONE THE TRIP" UNTIL THE END  
OF APRIL OR EARLY MAY. THE DELAY WOULD MEAN U.S. FAILURE  
TO COMPLY WITH THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING REQUIREMENT OF THE  
FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION TREATY.  
B) THE USG IS RELUCTANT TO RECEIVE SUAREZ BEFORE JULY.  
C) THUS IT IS CLEAR THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION  
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"DOES NOT WISH TO TAKE A STEP AT THIS TIME IN ITS RELATIONS  
WITH SPAIN WHICH COULD HELP ONE GROUP OR HURT ANOTHER IN  
THE GENERAL ELECTIONS."  
D) THERE HAVE BEEN PRESSURES "FROM SOME SPANISH POLITICAL  
GROUPS ON THE DEPARTMENT SO THAT "WASHINGTON DOES NOT INFLUENCE,  
CONSCIOUSLY OR UNCONSCIOUSLY, THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS."  
E) THE NEW YORK TIMES THE PREVIOUS SUNDAY EDITORIALIZED THAT

THE SPANISH GOVT APPEARED TO HAVE DEFINITELY ABANDONED  
ITS NEUTRALITY. IN THE U.S. IT IS BELIEVED THAT A BROAD  
RANGE OF SPANISH POLITICAL PARTIES - "FROM THE SOCIALISTS TO  
ALIANZA POPULAR" - OPPOSES A PRE-ELECTION SUAREZ VISIT TO WASHINGTON.  
F) ANOTHER REASON GIVEN BY "SOME OFFICIALS" FOR THE DELAY  
IN THE SECRETARY'S TRIP IS A POSSIBLE CHANGE OF U.S. AMBASSADORS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEUTRALISM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, SP, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (SUAREZ GONZALEZ, ADOLFO)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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